Nuggets of News

Gold Hill Historical Society
P. O. Box 26
504 First Avenue
Gold Hill OR 97525
541-855-1182

March / April / May 1999

Newsletter for members and friends of the Gold Hill Historical Society
Established 1986
Meetings are held 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
at the Historical Society Museum, 504 First Avenue, Gold Hill, Oregon (except for August when the Annual Picnic/Potluck is held at noon on the 3rd Sunday).
Museum hours: Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Closed Holidays - Admission FREE (Donations accepted.)

Historic Stamp Mill Hoisted Into Place
Thanks to Many Volunteers

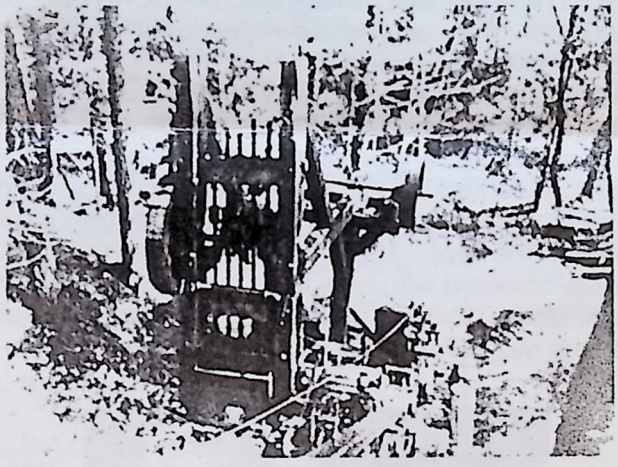


Photo by Ted Wharton

Stamp mill as it appeared in the woods at Lucky Bart Mine on Sardine Creek in Gold Hill.

Photo by Ted Wharton

Stamp Mill placed on Museum grounds.

Thanks to many hard-working volunteers, the ore stamp mill is secured in place on the Museum grounds. As many of you know, this 5-stamp mill was at home at the Lucky Bart Mine on Sardine Creek from 1893 until it was moved to the Museum grounds in 1996. After being stored on the grounds until last November, the mainframe was finally hoisted into place with use of a large crane which was donated by S & B James Construction Company. The following companies and volunteers were instrumental in the completion of the project (sincere apologies if any names have been inadvertently left out): Rick Chamberlain Logging (dismantling), Estremado Logging (hauling), Sweed Mills (salvage old parts), International Line Builders (heavy lifting), S & B James Construction (final setup), Will Cowie

(continued on Page 2)

Next Meeting:
March 17, 1999
6:30 p.m.

(*continued from page 1*)

(crane operator, International Line Builders), Bob Sutton (crane operator, S & B James Construction Company), George Cox (restored John Deere engine), and Ray Ayers (low boy operator). Other willing helpers were: Rex Parker, Ted Wharton, Dave Wharton, Charlie Johnson, Carl Saddler, Matt Saddler, Don Moore, Art Goss, Chuck Zarka, Eric Gomes, Jim Dodson, Gary Vincent, Tom Cushman, Gary Martin, Chuck Burgess, and Gene Bowling.

The Museum acquired the mill from Jim Dodson who had procured it in 1995 through cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management. Jim stipulated that the mill was to be restored and set up as a monument to the original owner, Josiah Beeman, who built the fine home that is our Museum. Sadly, Jim died before he saw the mill set up.

Having this monumental gold mining artifact on the museum grounds makes an impression that has no substitute for interpreting the history of gold mining. Without the dedication of skilled and hard-working volunteers this mill could not have been preserved. Hats off and a thank you as big as the gigantic mill itself to all of you for your generous donation of time and labor.

Bathroom Remodeling

The rush of the Holiday season was barely over when Lyn and Rex Parker started on their long-time goal of remodeling the museum's bathroom. This aging facility is reputed to have had the first indoor plumbing in all of Gold Hill!

Amidst tools, toil, and laughter, this devoted couple removed the extensive dry rot, replacing damaged 2 X 4s and the entire floor. In the process of pulling up the floor the vintage square nails they pulled up were kept and are now for sale in the Museum Shop. With the help of another volunteer, Clare Moore, they removed the old wallpaper and hung new carefully choosing materials that are in keeping with the period of the original bathroom. Then, they painted walls and ceiling, made and hung new lace curtains, purchased and installed a new window shade, and put down new vinyl flooring in a pattern keeping with the distinct period decor. They left the old wainscotting on the walls, carefully sanding and patching in additional pieces where needed.

With the help of Don Moore they put in a new sink, installed a pull-chain elevated water-tank toilet, then reinstalled the tub, replacing old plumbing as they went along. Rex built and installed lighted locking showcases for the display of vintage toilet articles. These four volunteers have absolutely transformed this room. They have succeeded in converting the rather worn and vintage bathroom into one of beauty--and it is fully functional! Everything works better than ever! The lights glow, the tub drains, the water runs, and the toilet flushes (from the top). The walls glisten, the windows sparkle, and the ceiling glistens. The windows are now covered with new lace curtains which were made by Lyn, and a new Victorian-style window shade adds a lovely period touch. You are encouraged to stop by the museum soon to see for yourself the magnificent transformation--perfectly achieved with all-volunteer help.

Photo by Barbara Finnie

Lyn and Rex Parker hard at work remodeing the Museum's vintage bathroom.

Photo by Cliff Finnie

Clare Moore pulling the pull chain on the Victorian style toilet which her husband, Don Moore, installed.

The Devil's Soliloquy

by H. E. Wharton

(Written during a trip Ted Wharton's father, H. E. Wharton, took with Rev. C. E. Wharton (Ted's Grandfather) on July 4, 1914. First published in the Gold Hill News July 1914, Ben Lampman, Editor.

"Looking for a secluded spot, close to natures heart, where we could rest, enjoy peace and contentment away from the dead colors, the dust, and the routine grind of office duty, we desided to leave behind, the smell of gaslone, the loud laughter and chatter of the gay throngs who made miserable the peace of the most perfect day of the season and taking advise of others (for once) we headed for upper Sardine Creek. We left the city of Gold Hill about 9 A. M. with a spanking good team, a big lunch and anticipation in our heart. Enroute to the Sardine road we passed 30 autos headed for the big noise in Ashland. Anyone that ever drove up the cool shady road along the Creek, with the smell of balsam and new mown hay in the air, past fertile farms, pleasant meadows, cool deep pools or little laughing water falls and does not say the God Pan lives is not natural and has the soul of the pig.

"After disposing of the lunch in the proper manner at the forks of the road to the Griffith and the Lee ranches. We found about us on all sides, the tallest ferns, deepest moss and greenest grass imaginable. The shade, and the peaceful, rest enticing, envigorating surroundings are almost intoxicating while the songs of the birds, the saucy chatter of the squirrels, and the mosquitoes and ants leave no instant of inattention to the life about you.

"After a day well spent and thoroughly enjoyed we had but one regret, that we couldn't stay there alway."

Note: Rev. Wharton is buried at Rock Point Cemetery.

Is all that glitters really gold?

At the Museum through April 15, 1999, you have an opportunitiy to win a gold panning kit. All you have to do to win is guess the correct number of "gold nuggets" in this jar. Stop by the Mueum and make your estimate today! The closest to the correct guess wins a gold panning kit from the Museum gift shop. Everyone has an equal chance to win and there is no entry fee. *Sorry, the "gold nuggets" will remain the property of the Museum!*

Win Gold Panning Kit!!!

It's Your Guess!!!

New Officers

Elections were held at the Membership meeting on February 17, 1999. New officers are:

President: Barbara Finne
Vice-President: Marge Martin
Secretary: Gloria Wood
Treasurer: Clare Moore
Member-at-Large:
Lyn Parker
Ted Wharton

Message from Marge

I want to thank all the members for a good year in 1998. We got a lot of things done--a new roof on our museum, the stamp mill set up, and the bathroom remodeling completed. Thanks to all you hard-working volunteers.

I wish all of the new officers good luck in 1999. There is a lot planned for the summer. It will be another exciting year with lots of fun and lots of swell people.

Thanks again.

Marge Martin,
Outgoing President

Photo by Cliff Finnie

Outgoing President Marge Martin passing the gavel to incoming President Barbara Finnie at the February 17 meeting.

Museum articles in new *Gold Hill Gazette*

Starting with the first issue of *The Gold Hill Gazette,* a monthly insert first published in January 1999 in *The Rogue River Press,* the Museum is being featured in an article a month.

The Museum's purpose has always been to preserve, document, and collect artifacts from bygone days in the Gold Hill and surrounding areas, and then in turn offer what we have collected to the public in the form of educational opportunities and museum exhibits. With these monthly articles, we hope to generate community interest and support.

Preservation of artifacts and information from the past for the present and the future is our prime goal. With community support, the Museum can continue to grow and expand its offerings.

The Gold Hill Historical Society is grateful to *The Rogue River Presss* for this opportunity to promote Museum activities and generate community support.

Calendars still for sale

Don't forget the 1999 calendars are still for sale in the Museum Gift Shop. They make a wonderful gift. If you haven't seen one, you are in for a pleasant surprise! They are a historical and interesting record of the many bridges of this area. All proceeds from the sale of these $5.00 calendars is used to benefit the Gold Hill Historical Society.

Southern Oregon University's "Museum Studies" Class

Four members of the Gold Hill Historical Society volunteered to study museum administration at a Southern Oregon University class at the Southern Oregon Historical Society's History Center in Medford. Included in the class were field trips to Hanley Farms, Southern Oregon Historical Society's storage warehouse, Jacksonville Children's Museum, and The Schneider Art Museum.

The curriculum is designed to provide a "behind-the-scenes" look at museum administration, ethics, policies, standards, curation of collections, management of historic properties, museum education and programming, exhibit planning and design, and publications. The course is taught by Instructor Margaret Watson, who is also curator at Hanley Farms.

The students, Joyce Wayland, Gloria Wood, and Barbara and Cliff Finnie will hopefully be able to apply much of what they have learned to their work at the Gold Hill Historical Society Museum.

Message from your new President

On Tuesday, February 17 I was installed as your 1999 president. I am honored to serve in this capacity.

As many of you know, Clifford and I are new Gold Hill residents. While searching for a new home in the area, we were drawn to the museum. On our first visit, Curator Joyce Wayland gave us a warm welcome and invited us back to the museum as soon as we moved here and got settled. Well, here we are, moved, settled and right back to the museum.

As the year progresses, I look forward to meeting all of you as we work together to meet the museum goals. This will be a busy year with many important plans and programs.

Stop by the museum and lend your support. The museum needs the help and ideas of <u>all</u> members and friends.

Don't hesitate to telephone me at the museum if you have questions or if you just want to chat about museum activities.

Barbara Finnie
President
Gold Hill Historical Society

February Meeting

In attendance at the February 17, 1999, meeting were: Marge Martin, Joyce Wayland, Ted and Armela Wharton, Barbara and Cliff Finnie, Rex and Lynn Parker, Jerry and Janet Sessions, Gloria Wood, Mary Bradish, and Clare Moore. These same people regularly attend the meetings and are taking responsibility for the care of the museum and all activities. Gold Hill Historical Society boasts 94 paid members (as of February 21, 1999). If only two or three of you would be able to attend the next meeting and take an active part in your Museum, more programs could be offered to the public. The more volunteers who are available the more numerous and varied the programs are going to be that we can offer to the public.

New Computer for Museum

At the January meeting, the membership voted to buy a new computer, scanner and printer for administrative use at the Museum.

Once purchased, Cliff Finnie will set the computer up, and then show the museum staff how to use the new features and software. Once they have the necessary training, they will be able to continue their learning on their own by utilizing tutorials and computer help menus. They will learn ways to enhance museum records, improve communications, make labels for exhibits, publish this newsletter, make postcards for the Museum Shop, and discover other unlimited uses.

In addition to tasks they will be able to perform using the new computer, the staff is looking forward to having a Gold Hill Museum Web Site available on the Internet sometime before the turn of the century. *(And, yes, our new computer will be Y2K compliant!!)*

Rock Point Pioneer Cemetery

As soon as the weather breaks, we will be busy cleaning up the cemetery. The wind has blow a lot of limbs down, and the rain left pot holes to fill in the roads.

We are trying to verify grave locations and will one day have all the sections marked. Keeping the gate locked did not work, as people destroyed the fences to get into the cemetery at night. We need all the help we can get to keep the cemetery in good shape.

May 15 and 22, 1999, are Cemetery Clean-Up Days so mark your calendars. There will be the usual Pot Luck at noon on the second Saturday. Bring your favorite dish, garden tools, and knee pads or a mat to protect your knees.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE: Marge Martin, Mary Bradish, Joyce Wayland and Gloria Wood.

Bargains!!

Something new has been added to the Museum Gift Shop: Drop by and see what is in our trunk. New items will be added regularly. Stop by often to see what is for sale! You'll find gift shop markdowns, postcards, children's toys, gadgets, and other miscellaneous items. All proceeds from our new "Mini-Thrift-Shop-In-A-Trunk will benefit your Museum.

NOTE TO MEMBERS: The Mini-Thrift-Shop-in-a-Trunk is a trial innovation in the Gift Shop designed to raise museum funds. Marked-down Gift Shop items will be included for sale in the trunk as well as white elephant items.

If you want to help with this fund raiser, white elephant contributions would be very welcome. They need to be fairly small because space in the trunk is limited.

Newsletter Items

Your newsletter editor needs <u>your</u> news! Please drop any ideas/information/photos/ tidbits into the Newsletter envelope in the Museum Office, or call us at the Museum with your news.

Next newsletter deadline will be May 20 for the June issue.

Editors this issue:
Barbara and Cliff Finnie

Message to Members

Many exciting programs are underway at your museum. And, many have taken place since the last newsletter was published. These programs would not be possible without the dedication of our curator, Joyce Wayland and the help of all the volunteers who continue to contribute many hours each.

The badly-needed new roof was completed this past summer, thus stopping the dry rot and the stress of placing buckets in the right places during the rains.

The bathroom has been remodeled through the devoted efforts of volunteers *(see story on page 2)*.

Computer needs have been assessed and a new computer has been purchased *(see story on page 5)*. By this time next year, much will have been accomplished with the use of this new comptuer.

With the stamp mill hoisted into place, the Gold Mining Exhibit for the grounds continues to evolve. Much help is needed to complete this work.

Museum articles are appearing monthly in the new *Gold Hill Gazette* to inform the public of Museum happenings *(see story on page 4)*..

A Valley of the Rogue State Park program is planned for this summer (see story on page 6).

The garden that is planned with memorial contributions needs to be developed.

Oral histories are being taken by Clare and Don Moore *(see story this page)*.

More could be done with additional help. If you aren't an active member now, would you consider contributing one hour, two hours, whatever time you have to help your Historical Society meet their goals? Stop by or call the Museum to see how you can help.

Ruffles for the Raffle!
Win this Doll

This beautiful doll will be given to the lucky ticket holder at our Annual Pot Luck Picnic on August 22, 1999. Tickets are $1.00 each or six for $5.00 and are available for purchase at the Museum.

Oral Histories

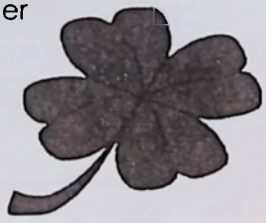
Clare and Don Moore have offered to begin taking oral histories. More will be reported on this project in the next newsletter.

If you know of someone they should talk to, please contact the museum and let them know.

Valley of the Rogue State Park Summer Program

The Valley of the Rogue State Park has asked the Gold Hill Historical Society to present a summer program in the new park amphitheater. In June, July, and August we will be presenting two 45-minute performances per month. Definite plans are still being worked out as to the script details for this production. The general theme will be the history of gold panning in this area with much audience interaction. Gloria Wood will close the program with a slide show of historical local scenes.

We could use your help for this program, too. Here's a great opportunity to use your acting (and clowning perhaps?) ability and enjoy summer evenings in the Park while helping your Historical Society with a worthwhile project. Bring the kids, your wife, your husband, your mom, dad, aunts, uncles, friends--anyone interested in helping with the summer park program!



Gold Dust Day June 12, 1999

On June 12, 1999, the Nugget Club of Gold Hill is again sponsoring Gold Dust Day. For about the last 20 years, theNugget Club has sponsored this event except for last year when it was skipped due to a lack of volunteers .

The parade will begin at 10 a.m. at Patrick School and end at the city park. There will be a run associated with the event that will probably start at 8 a.m. but details are still being worked out as this newsletter goes to press. For more details, you are welcome to attend a Gold Dust Day planning event at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 9, 1999, at Patrick School.

Fire District #3 of Gold Hill will hold an open house at the new fire station later in the afternoon on that day. More details on this later.

The Gold Hill Historical Society is planning to have a float in the parade as well as a booth in the park. The Museum will open immediately following the parade and will remain open until its usual closing of 4 p.m.

The Man in the Glass

When you get what you want in your struggle for self
And the world makes you king for a day,
Just go to a mirror and look at yourself,
And see what THAT man has to say.

For it isn't your father or mother or wife
Whose judgment upon you must pass;
The fellow whose verdict counts most in your life
Is the one staring back from the glass.

You may be like Jack Horner and chisel a plum
And think you're a wonderful guy,
But the man in the glass says you're only a bum
If you can't look him straight in the eye.

He's the fellow to please, never mind all the rest,
For he's with you clear up to the end,
And you've passed your most dangerous, difficult test
If the man in the glass is your friend.

You may fool the whole world down the pathway of years
And get pats on the back as you pass
But your final reward will be heartaches and tears
If you've cheated the man in the glass.

by Anonymous

Gold Hill Historical Society
Membership/Renewal/Volunteer Form

Dues are due:
If you have not paid your dues for 1999, please do so now. They are overdue.
Thank you.

Name _____

Street Address _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

☐ Family Membership $5.00 per year
New membership,. Welcome!

☐ Family Membership $5.00 per year
Renewal. Thank you!

☐ Contribution. Amount $_____

☐ Yes, I would like to volunteer.

Return form to:

Gold Hill Historical Society
P. O. Box 26
504 First Avenue
Gold Hill OR 97525

Board of Directors
1999

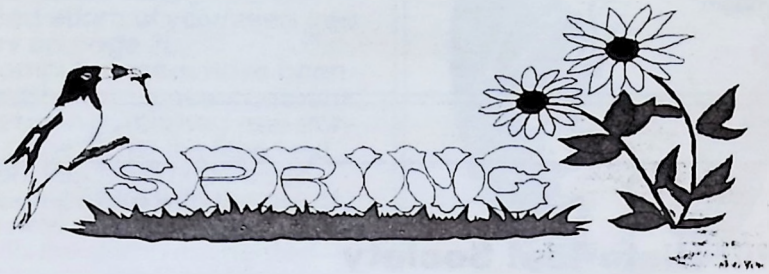
Barbara Finnie, President
Marge Martin, Vice President
Gloria Wood, Secretary
Clare Moore, Treasurer
Ted Wharton
Lyn Parker

Museum Curator: Joyce Wayland

Our Purpose and Goals

The Gold Hill Historical Society's Purpose and Goals are to collect, document, and preserve the history of Gold Hill and area through:

Oral Histories
Photographs
Artifacts
Books



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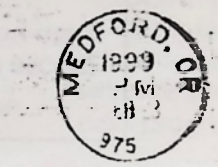

Eagle Point Historical Society
PO Box 201
Eagle Point, OR. 97524